

nest was in its original condition and so completely was it concealed by the foliage that the presence of the duck in her snug retreat would never have been suspected had she not been accidentally observed flying to the tree. The difficulty I experienced in photographing the nest adds to the value of the excellent negative I secured.

April 29, 1905, I located the second nest; in this case, owing to the bareness of the trees, concealment was impossible. The duck had laid ten eggs in a last year's nest of the Red-shouldered Hawk in a basswood tree fifty feet up, and the appearance of this large bird sitting on her nest among the naked branches was truly most unique.

In the different works on American ornithology to which I have had access, none of the writers refer in any way to this phase of the bird's life, but in a book on English natural history entitled 'Lakes and Streams' by C. O. G. Napier, published in England in 1879, the writer speaks of the Mallard (*Anas boschas*) as having been found nesting "in a crow's nest at least thirty feet from the ground."

In the two cases I have cited the ducks successfully brought off their broods but by what means they conveyed them to the neighboring marsh I could not ascertain. Both nests were in trees overlooking extensive marshes and in different parts of the county being, possibly, twenty miles apart.—EDWIN BEAUPRÉ, *Kingston, Ont.*

Lesser Snow Geese in Michigan and Ontario.—In view of the few of these birds upon record, it seems advisable to announce the capture of two Lesser Snow Geese (*Chen hyperborea*) in this vicinity. The first one was taken Oct. 27, 1905, at the base of Point Pelée, by Mr. Sidney Stanlick of Leamington, Ont. The bird is an immature female in the dusky plumage and is probably a bird of the year. In plumage and measurements it appears to be typical, but the line of the culmen shows a variation due to either individual variation or else malformation. The bird had evidently been injured before Mr. Stanlick took it. It is now in the collection of Mr. Taverner, numbered 424.

The other bird was killed Nov. 5, 1905, by Mr. Frank Mather at Goose Creek, St. Clair Flats, as it passed over his blind in company with another bird which he called a "Black Brant" but which was perhaps another *Chen*. The goose is still in his possession.

We examined the bird in the taxidermy studio of Mr. L. J. Eppinger before it was mounted but, unhappily, not before it was skinned; consequently no length measurements could be taken nor the sex ascertained. Beyond all doubt, however, it is an adult male. Every effort was made to properly identify this bird, and a careful drawing was made of the bill and submitted to Dr. Louis B. Bishop who pronounced it identical with *hyperborea* specimens of his from the Dakotas. Mr. Taverner also compared the drawing with specimens in the collection of Mr. J. H. Fleming and found it to agree with specimens of *hyperborea* and quite different

from *nivalis*. Though the measurements are well up into those given for the latter in most of our manuals Dr. Bishop says they come within those of *hyperborea* as illustrated in his series. With this evidence we have no hesitancy in recording this specimen as *Chen hyperborea*.

The status of the two forms in the Middle West seems to be but little understood and exact information as to their occurrence and distinctive features is difficult to get. From all we can gather *C. h. nivalis* appears to be essentially a bird of the Atlantic Coast, and if it does occur in this section it is only as a straggler. From all the inquiries we have made it is evident that there is much to be learned in regard to these allied forms and that a closer and more careful study of them will overthrow many of the published ideas on the subject. The present specimens of *nivalis* from the Middle West should be subjected to a more careful study to settle these points.

Measurements of Specimens.

	Length.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Culmen.	Height of bill.
St. Clair Flat bird,	—	17.75	6.5	4.25	2.2	1.4 inches
Point Pelée bird,	27.5	16	5.25	2.75	2	1.2 inches

— P. A. TAVERNER AND B. H. SWALES, *Detroit, Mich.*

The Yellow-crowned Night Heron near Toronto.—While engaged, last year, in naming and arranging the collection of Canadian birds at the Provincial Museum in this city, I found an immature Night Heron, which proved on examination to be a young "Yellow-crowned" (*Nycticorax violaceus*). Mr. John Maughan, Jr., who mounted the specimen, has kindly looked up its record, and finds that it was taken on August 15, 1898, at his father's farm near the Woodbine, Toronto. This is, I think, the first time that the bird has been taken in Ontario, though there are one or two records of its appearance in eastern Canada.—J. B. WILLIAMS, *Toronto, Ont.*

The Red Phalarope (*Crymophilus fulicarius*), a new Bird for the Kansas List.—A young female Red Phalarope was killed at Lake View, five miles northwest of Lawrence, Kansas, November 5, 1905, by E. E. Brown, of the University of Kansas. The bird was flushed from grass and weeds that grew in shallow water. It was the only bird of the kind seen, and, so far as I know, is the first one ever observed in the State of Kansas. As the Red Phalarope is a maritime bird, breeding on the shores of northern bodies of salt water, and spending most of its time on the ocean, its appearance in Kansas was unlooked for. The one taken must, for the present at least, be looked upon as a straggler. It may have been carried out of its usual course by a storm, or may have fallen in company with other birds that go far inland.—L. L. DYCHE, *University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.*